

**Salient Features**

- *L-band Radiometer / Scatterometer*
- *Argentina (CONAE) Provided Spacecraft (SAC-D) & mission operations component*
- *Dedicated Delta II launch vehicle*
- *Launch date: September 2008*
- *Operational life: 3 years*
- *Science Partnership with CONAE*
- *Aquarius PI (Acting): Dr. Gary Lagerloef, ESR*
- *SAC-D Principal Investigator : Dr. Raul Colomb, CONAE*
- *Project Manager: Amit Sen, JPL*
- *Aquarius Project Scientist: Dr. Yi Chao, JPL*
- *Program Executive: Mike Tanner, NASA HQ*
- *Aquarius Mission Manager: Tom Wagner, GSFC*
- *ESSP Formulation Program Manager: Dr. Steven Bard, JPL*

**Science**

- *First precise global, space-based observations of Sea Surface Salinity (SSS)*
- *Produce global salinity maps (0.2 psu) on a monthly basis*
- *Chart seasonal and year-to-year variations of SSS*
- *Observe & model the process that relate salinity variations to climate changes in the global cycling of water. Understand how these variations influence ocean circulation*
- *Aquarius will provide an unprecedented view of ocean's role in climate and weather*